MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS





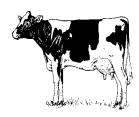
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MILK DISPOSITION AND INCOME

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Maryland milk production decreased by 5.3 percent in 2003 to 1,222 million pounds. The rate per cow for 2003 is 15,795 lbs, a decrease of 267 pounds from 2002. The annual average number of milk cows is down to 78,000 cows, 3,000 head less than last

year. Milk cash receipts for 2003 totaled \$166 million, decreasing 3 percent from 2002. Producer returns per hundred weight averaged \$13.30, 1 percent above last year. Of the 10 million pounds milk used on producer farms, 7 million pounds were fed to calves and 3 million pounds were used for household consumption. **United States** milk production increased 0.1 percent in 2003 to 170.3 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at

18,749 pounds, was 141 pounds above 2002. The annual average number of milk cows on farms, at 9.08 million head, was 55,000 head less than 2002. Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2003 totaled \$21.2 billion, 3 percent above 2002. Producer returns averaged \$12.55 per hundredweight, 3 percent above 2002. Marketings totaled 169 billion pounds, 0.2 percent above 2002. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers. An estimated 1.14 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 0.4 percent less than 2002. Calves were fed 86 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

	MILK DISPOSITION, INCOME AND VALUE, MARYLAND, 1999- 2003								
	Combined Marketings				Milk Used on Farms				
		Average Returns 1		Cash	Milk Used on Farms Where Produced			Gross	Farm Value
Year	Milk	Per 100 Pounds Milk	Per Pound Milk Fat	Receipts From Marketings	Fed to Calves 2	Milk Utilized	Value ³	Producer Income	of Milk Produced ⁵
	Million Pounds	Dollars		Thousand Dollars	Million Pounds		Thousand Dollars	Thousand Dollars	
1999	1,355	15.00	4.02	203,250	7	3	450	203,700	204,750
2000	1,341	13.50	3.59	181,035	7	3	405	181,440	182,385
2001	1,284	16.20	4.43	208,008	7	3	486	208,494	209,628
2002	1,291	13.20	3.55	170,412	7	3	396	170,808	171,732
2003	1,222	13.30	3.55	165,526	7	3	399	162,925	163,856

Cash Receipts divided by milk or milkfat represented in combined marketings.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Used for milk, cream and butter where produced, valued at average returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream.

⁴ Cash Receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption and farm churned butter.

⁵ Includes value of milk fed to calves.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL CENSUS - LAND USE: 2002 AND 1997

All farms			
All latins	Total	Percent of Total	1997
Land Use			
Farms number Land in farms acres Total cropland farms acres Harvested cropland farms acres Farms by acres harvested:	12,198	100.0	13,254
	2,077,630	100.0	2,193,063
	10,188	83.5	11,487
	1,487,218	71.6	1,617,860
	8,335	68.3	10,027
	1,282,004	61.7	1,377,747
1 to 49 acres	4,791	39.3	5,883
	1,109	9.1	1,334
	950	7.8	1,180
	863	7.1	963
	336	2.8	397
	286	2.3	270
	3,990	32.7	5,086
	107,463	5.2	153,880
	2,972	24.4	2,931
Cropland idle or used for cover crops or soil-improvement, but not harvested and	97,751	4.7	86,23
not pastured or grazed farms acres Cropland on which all crops failed farms	2,227	18.3	(NA)
	70,129	3.4	(NA)
	841	6.9	671
Cropland in cultivated summer fallow. farms acres Total woodland farms	22,415	1.1	14,770
	262	2.1	209
	5,117	0.2	5,179
	6,665	54.6	7,065
Pastureland and rangeland, other than	356,626	17.2	356,363
cropland and woodland pastured farms acres Land in house lots, ponds, roads	4,125	33.8	2,684
	120,419	5.8	103,171
wasteland, etc farms acres	7,798	63.9	9,001
	113,367	5.5	115,669
CROP INSURANCE, CONSERVATION, AND ORGANIC PRACTICES Land enrolled in Conservation			
Reserve Programs farms acres	1,610	(X)	638
	57,397	(X)	27,529
Land used to raise certified organically produced crops farms acres	85	0.7	(NA)
	3,353	0.2	(NA)
Land enrolled in Federal or other crop insurance programs farms acres	1,453	11.9	(NA)
	585,455	28.2	(NA)

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Prices received by Maryland farmers for the month of May were down for crops. The wheat price decreased nine cents to \$3.60 per bushel. Barley was down forty three cents to a price of \$1.91 per bushel. Soybeans moved down thirty three cents to \$9.46 per bushel. Livestock prices were up from last month. Calf prices were up to \$109.30 per cwt. and beef cattle were up \$4.20. Hog prices increased to \$45.90 per cwt.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS ¹								
	Maryland and Delaware				United States			
Commodity	UNIT	May 2003	April 2004	May 2004	May 2003	April 2004	May 2004	Parity Prices
	Dollars							
Wheat, Winter	BU	2.92	3.69	3.60	3.19	3.79	3.64	10.10
Corn	BU	2.88	3.37	3.33	2.38	2.89	2.78	6.78
Barley	BU	2.29	2.34	1.91	2.91	2.78	2.79	6.72
Soybeans	BU	6.24	9.79	9.46	6.07	9.62	9.60	15.90
All Hay, Baled	TON	159.00	132.20	132.20	98.00	89.60	101.00	
All Beef Cattle	CWT	72.30	81.20	85.40	75.50	84.80	88.40	171.00
Calves	CWT	79.50	100.60	109.30	100.00	117.00	122.00	229.00
Hogs	CWT	33.90	37.60	45.90	41.30	47.40	57.80	106.00
Milk, Fluid MKT	CWT				11.00	18.20	20.30	35.20
Chickens ²	LB	0.081	0.091	0.092				
Broilers	LB	0.351	0.339	0.361	0.340	0.480	0.500	
Eggs, Market	DOZ	0.484	0.738	0.555	0.397	0.614	0.468	1.70

¹ Mid-Month Forecast, Entire Month Price Does not include broilers

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED						
	United States 1990 - 92 = 100					
Index and Ratios	May 2003	April 2004	May 2004			
All Farm Products	105	*125	132			
All Crops	115	*123	127			
Feed Grain & Hay	110	124	124			
Oil Bearing Crops	109	*171	171			
Fruits & Nuts	107	*92	113			
All Livestock and Livestock Products	96	*126	135			
Meat Animals	100	*113	122			
Dairy Products	84	*139	155			
Poultry and Eggs	103	140	141			
Ratio ¹	83	94	99			
Price Paid Index	127	133	134			

^{*}Revised Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index prices paid.

CHICKENS AND EGGS

Maryland laying flocks produced 69 million eggs during April 2004 of which 68 million were table eggs and 1 million were hatching eggs. The average rate of lay was 74.4 percent. The average number of layers on hand during April 2004 was 2,231,000. On May 1, 2004, no layers in Maryland were being molted and 30.0 percent of all layers had been through a molt.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.34 billion during April 2004, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.28 billion table eggs, and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 58.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 2004 averaged 342 million, up 1 percent from a year earlier. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,148 eggs, up 1 percent from April 2003. Egg-type chicks hatched during April

totaled 37.5 million, down 1 percent from April 2003. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.1 million on May 1, 2004, down 3 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 311,000 during April 2004, up 11 percent from April 2003. The April 2004 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 774 million, was up 2 percent from April of the previous year. There were 661 million eggs in incubators on May 1, 2004, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Leading breeders placed 6.4 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 2004, down 5 percent from April 2003.

EGGS AND LAYERS: APRIL 2003 and 2004						
Item	2003	2004	2004/2003			
Eggs Produced During April	Million		Percent			
U.S.	7,187	7,343	102			
Maryland	66	69	105			
Layers, Average Number During April	Thous					
U.S.	338,182	341,914	101			
Maryland	2,822	3,093	110			
Eggs/100 Layers During April	Num					
U.S.	2,125	2,148	101			
Maryland	2,339	2,231	95			